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	ACTION	DIRECT REPLY	PREPARE REPLY
	APPROVAL	DISPATCH	RECOMMENDATION
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REMARKS:			
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(See inside cover)

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DISSEMINATION CONTROL ABBREVIATIONS

NOFORN-	Not Releasable to Foreign Nationals
NOCONTRACT-	Not Releasable to Contractors or Contractor/Consultants
PROPIN-	Caution-Proprietary Information Involved
ORCON-	Dissemination and Extraction of Information Controlled by Originator
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Attachment to Z-14050/83

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NPIC/IEG (09/83)

23 SEPTEMBER 1983

**TYPE-69 TANK DEPLOYMENT
XINTAIYUE ARMY BARRACKS AL 1, CHINA (SWN)**

25X1

1. **SIGNIFICANCE:** THIS IS THE FIRST CONFIRMED DEPLOYMENT OF TYPE-69 MEDIUM TANKS TO AN OPERATIONAL UNIT IN CHINA. (SWN)

2. **REMARKS:** ONE CONFIRMED AND TWO PROBABLE TYPE-69 TANKS, ALONG WITH FIVE TYPE-59 TANKS, WERE OBSERVED ON THE SUB-CALIBER TANK FIRING RANGE AT XINTAIYUE ARMY BARRACKS AL 1 ON IMAGERY OF [REDACTED] THIS GARRISON HOUSES ELEMENTS OF THE 7TH TANK DIVISION IN BEIJING MILITARY REGION. ALTHOUGH THE TANKS WERE CANVAS COVERED, THE POSITION OF THE BORE EVACUATOR (STEPPED-DOWN FROM THE MUZZLE END OF THE GUN TUBE) WAS CLEARLY DISCERNIBLE ON THE CONFIRMED TYPE-69. THIS IS THE PRINCIPLE FEATURE WHICH DISTINGUISHES THE TYPE-69 TANK FROM THE OLDER TYPE-59 TANK. THE TWO PROBABLE TYPE-69 TANKS ALSO APPEARED TO HAVE THE STEPPED-DOWN BORE EVACUATOR. A LASER RANGE FINDER AND AN INFRARED (IR) SEARCHLIGHT WERE EVIDENT ON ALL THREE OF THESE TANKS. (SWN)

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THE TYPE-69 TANK IS AN UPGRADED VERSION OF THE TYPE-59 MEDIUM TANK. IT REPORTEDLY CONTAINS IMPROVEMENTS TO THE CHASSIS, ENHANCED GROUND MOBILITY, A NEW ENGINE AND TRANSMISSION, AND TWO-PLANE STABILIZATION OF THE FIRING SYSTEM. OTHER IMPROVEMENTS INCLUDE A NEW 105MM SMOOTHBORE MAIN GUN, A LASER RANGE FINDER, AND AN IR SEARCHLIGHT. THE TYPE-69 TANK IS PROBABLY PRODUCED AT THE BAOTOU ARMORED VEHICLE (AV) PLANT 617

25X1

PREVIOUSLY THE TYPE-69 TANK HAS ONLY BEEN OBSERVED AT RESEARCH/DEVELOPMENT/TEST FACILITIES. ONE TYPE-69 TANK WAS CONFIRMED AT THE BAOTOU AV TEST AREA [REDACTED] IN DECEMBER 1981. ONE PROBABLE TYPE-69 AND ONE POSSIBLE TYPE-69 WERE OBSERVED AT CHANGXINDIAN ARMY BARRACKS AL 2 [REDACTED] (SWN) [REDACTED]

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3. [REDACTED] COORDINATES 39-31-56N 112-48-20E (S)

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